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September 22, 2011

Via Federal Express

Document Processing Center (Mail Code 7407M)  
Room 6428  
Attention: 8(e) Coordinator  
Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1201 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear 8(e) Coordinator:

8EHQ-92-10734  
1,2,4,5-Benzenetetracarboxylic Acid, Dianhydride  
CAS# 89-32-7

This letter is to inform you of the results of a subacute inhalation study with the above referenced test substance.

Male rats were exposed to dust atmospheres of the test substance for 6 hours per day for a total of 10 exposures in 2 weeks. Ten rats were used at concentration levels of 0.01, 0.03 and 0.1 mg/L and in a control group. Respiratory difficulties, nasal irritation and discharge were noted in all rats after exposure. Decrease in body weight was noted in 0.03 and 0.1 mg/L groups at the end of the exposure. A statistically significant increase in the number of erythrocytes at 0.03 and 0.1 mg/L, increase in hemoglobin at all groups, increase in neutrophils at 0.1 mg/L, and decrease in lactate dehydrogenase at 0.1 mg/L were noted at the end of exposure period. All rats at the end of the exposure period and after 14 days of recovery had very slight to slight multifocal hypertrophy and hyperplasia of type 2 alveolar cells with occasional formation of alveolar giant cells (foreign body type). Most rats had very slight to slight focal to multifocal interstitial pneumonia characterized by very slight to slight interstitial fibrosis and very slight to slight interstitial mononuclear inflammatory cell infiltrates. All rats at the end of the exposure period had very slight to slight aggregates of foamy macrophages in bronchiolar lumens; one rat at 0.01 mg/L group and one rat at 0.03 mg/L group, at the end of recovery period had very slight aggregates of foamy macrophages in bronchiolar lumens. Slight aggregates of dark-brown pigment in cytoplasm of hypertrophic and hyperplastic type 2 alveolar cells were noted in all animals at the end of recovery period and not at the end of exposure period.

This information is submitted in accordance with current guidance issued by EPA indicating EPA's interpretation of Section 8(e) of the Toxic Substances Control Act or, where it is not clear that reporting criteria have been met, it is submitted as a precautionary measure and because it is information in which EPA may have an interest.

Sincerely,

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(302) 366-5314

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